

# Restoring the principle of representation by population

Our government has continued to deliver on its campaign promises to hard working Canadian families since forming the government in January 2006. We have delivered on lowering taxes, tackling crime, offering parents choice in child care, improving health care through Patient Wait Times Guarantees, and cleaning up the environment.

While each of these priorities has proven to be significant achievements, Canadians have also demanded our government strengthen accountability

and democracy. We recently achieved this promise by introducing the Constitution Act, 2007 (Democratic Representation).

May 11, the Honourable Peter Van Loan, Minister for Democratic Reform and Leader of the Government in the House of Commons introduced the Constitution Act, 2007 (Democratic Representation), to restore the principle of representation by population for the provinces with faster growing populations, while protecting the seat counts of provinces with slower growing populations.

Under the Constitution, seats in the House of Commons are readjusted among the provinces after each decennial census according to a formula. This formula is based primarily on provincial population, but also incorporates minimum seat guarantees for provinces with relative declining populations. The current formula leaves provinces with faster-growing populations significantly under-represented in the House of Commons. Therefore, the Constitution Act, 2007 will address this inequity by updating the formula provided for in section 51 of the Constitution Act, 1867 so that future readjustments better account for population changes in faster-growing provinces.

The new legislation introduced by Minister Van Loan will also ensure that any rapidly growing province with a population smaller than that of Quebec

*Ottawa Journal*

**David Tilson**  
MP Dufferin-Caledon



will have an average riding population similar to the average riding population of Quebec.

The Constitution Act, 2007 will restore representation by population most effectively in British Columbia and Alberta and will significantly improve the representation of Ontario, while also protecting the seat counts of provinces with relative declining populations and moderating the overall size of the House of Commons. Based on the current population projections for the 2011 census (assuming medium growth and medium migration trends), the

proposed formula would result in additional seats for Ontario, Alberta, and British Columbia in the next readjustment. No province would lose seats due to constitutional seat guarantees.

There are several benefits to the proposed formula. Firstly, it will mean smaller ridings in provinces that receive additional seats, which means MPs will be able to more effectively represent their constituents and there will be greater representational equality between ridings in different provinces. Secondly, smaller average constituency populations will be of

particular benefit for constituents and MPs in these faster growing provinces. It will allow rural Canadians to be more easily heard by their representatives. Thirdly, the proposed formula will be more responsive to future population growth rather than fixing a ceiling on the rate at which growing provinces can gain seats, leaving them falling behind. Fourth, the proposed formula will provide significant improvements for Ontario. Ontario is expected to receive 10 new seats rather than the four new seats under the existing formula, which means that the average population of an Ontario MP will be reduced from 121,588 constituents under the current formula, to 115,299 constituents under the proposed formula. Ontario will also continue to have the greatest representation in the House of Commons with more than 35% of the House seats.



Ken Rey (M&M franchise owner), MP David Tilson, and Scott Hurren from the Rotary Club of Bolton showed their support for the store's annual fundraiser recently.

## Charity BBQ aids foundation

Saturday, May 12 M&M Meats of Bolton hosted its annual charity BBQ in support of the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of Canada (CCFC). The Rotary Club of Bolton was also on hand to lend its support to the franchise by serving up hot dogs and hamburgers.

MP David Tilson attended the BBQ, which raises funds all across Canada to support medical research to find a cure for Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis.

"This annual fund-raiser is always a huge success in Bolton and continues to generate immense support from our community for such an important cause. I commend franchise owner Ken Rey and the staff of M&M Meats, as well as the Rotary Club of Bolton for their hard work and outstanding efforts to assist the thousands of Canadians suffering from Crohn's and Colitis."

The retail chain's objective for this year's event was to raise \$1.9 million Canada-wide for the CCFC. Once totaled, M&M Meats surpassed this goal by raising \$1,910,000.

M&M Meat Shops Charity BBQ Day, which raises funds to support vital research to find a cure for Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis, also known as inflammatory bowel disease (IBD). To date M&M Meat Shops' franchisees, customers and volunteers have raised \$14.44 million.

Every cent raised will go directly to the CCFC to help find a cure for IBD, a disease that affects more than 170,000 Canadian men, women and children.

"Once again, Canadians demonstrated incredible support for Charity BBQ Day, raising \$1.91 million for CCFC," said Mac Voisin, founder and chairman of M&M Meat Shops. "Our sincere thanks to everyone who helped make the 19th Annual Charity BBQ Day the most successful yet. We could never have accomplished this amazing feat without the help of thousands of volunteers and our dedicated M&M Meat Shops franchisees, who tirelessly facilitated BBQs and promoted the event in their local communities across the country. We also want to sincerely thank our generous suppliers, including Maple Leaf Foods, Humpty Dumpty, Frito Lay and Associated Brands, who continue to support us and donate their products for this event."

## FRANK THE TAILOR MEN'S WEAR

Quality Men's Wear Alterations, Formal Rentals

127 Broadway in Orangeville

519-941-2771



### Suits

Starting at

**\$199<sup>00</sup>**

### Sports Jackets

Large Selection

**50% off**

Sizes 18 to 54

### Graduation Prom Tuxes

Rent from **\$69<sup>99</sup>**

or **Boys Suits**

Buy from **\$119<sup>99</sup>**

### Wash & Wear Dress Pants

**\$55<sup>00</sup> or 2/\$100<sup>00</sup>**

Sizes 30-48

### Shorts

Dress Shorts  
Cargo Shorts  
Casual, etc.

**30% off**

Sizes 30 to 56

### All Tommy Hilfiger Sports Wear

Starting at

**20% off**

Shorts, Casual Shirts, Golfshirts

### All Dress Shirts

**20% off**

and Get a Tie 1/2 price

**SEE OUR GOLF SHIRTS**

We also carry braces, wallets, scarves, hats, underwear, socks, P.J.'s, housecoats, shirts, leather coats, down coats, ties, etc.

**Don't forget . . .**

**We also carry Big & Tall**

We accept

